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PARIS-Klosque No. 12, near trand Hotel an Riesque No. 10. Boulevard des Canucines If our friends who favor us with manuscripts for publication wish to have rejected articles returned, they must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

Two propositions now before Congress call for hearty and prompt support. The first is the bill emanating from the War Department for the creation of a general staff. No recent measure relating to our army's organization compares with this in merit and importance.

The other proposition comes from the Navy Department, and looks to the building of more ships. At this moment Venezuela provides stronger arguments for its adoption than any that can originate in Congress itself.

The Gray Commission To-day. The testimony given during the last few days at Scranton gives the Gray Commission a new aspect.

Hitherto the commission has been listening to discussions between employer and employed as to wages, hours of labor and the conditions of the miners life. With these questions the public, not having chosen to give themselves authority over them, have had a sentimental connection only. But during the last few days we have heard straight from the victims' own lips the accounts of outrages committed throughout the strike by members of JOHN MITCHELL'S organization. The abused miners have told of a reign of terror, of assaults of the most atrocious kind, and of denial to them of those rights to work and live in peace and safety which the most elementary rules of civilized government hold to be rightfully inviolable. These are matters of immediate and intense concern to the public, and imposing upon them the duty of sparing no pains in order to provide against the irrecurrence.

In becoming the means of placing a list of these outrages upon the official record, so that all may see and understand, the Gray Commission has acquired a relation to the law which did not belong to it before, and which confers upon it unquestionably a character of the highest public usefulness.

The lesson of this record should be taken to heart by the entire community, and by no portion of it more deeply than by organized labor, under whose banner and for whose benefit these offences against justice and order have been committed

The Report on the Police.

The commission appointed to investigate the needs of the Police Department is in complete agreement on most of the matters on which it makes recommendations, and, while its findings are largely taken up with questions of routine man- | Moreover, as the making of very large | really scientific, but misleading and thereagement of the force, some of them are corporations has passed its infancy, the fore of the nature of a fraud on the worthy of attention.

Mr. PHILBIN believe that the Commis- | first step in the fermation of a company sioner of Police should be appointed for is to publish every detail of its capitalia term of fourteen years instead of five zation, publicity as a legal requirement years, as at present. As the Mayor has | would be likely to prove superfluous. an unlimited power of removal, length of term is not of consequence. The investigators think the Commissioner should be removable only on charges, so that his tenure of office would depend on his behavior, rather than on the political affiliations or whims of the Mayor. office, he might not have decided to quit | Mr. Knox's speech: it at the end of the first year.

The revised Charter specifically placed an unlimited power of removal of all commissioners in the hands of the Mayor. This was done in order that responsibility might be centralized, and that no Mayor should have as an excuse for the shortcomings of his subordinates the plea that he could not control them. Col. PARTRIDGE's experience has convinced him that the Commissioner of Police should be allowed to define the policy of the department, unhampered by the political beliefs, theories, or aspirations of the Mayor. We are not surprised. Really this recommendation is a rebuff for Mayor Low. Should it be enacted into law-which is improbable-the Police Commissioner, an appointive officer, would be boss of the department, and not the Mayor. This would be a near approach to the condition existing before the enactment of the present single head commission law, when DEVERY ruled the roost; but, after all, the essence of the matter is that PARTRIDGE tired of Low's policy.

The recommendation that the Detective Bureau be made stronger in its personnel is a good one. The bureau needs it.

The benefits that would result from giving the title " General Inspector " to one of the inspectors in the department may be clear in the minds of Col. PAR-TRIDGE and Mr. PHILBIN. At present the Commissioner has power to designate officers for command, and for specific duty. The power would be no greater if a new title and an increased salary were given to the officer so detailed. The detail would be at the pleasure of the Commissioner, and for this reason there would be no gain in respect for the officer so designated. Besides, New Yorkers are convinced that the members of the Police Department are now well enough paid, from doormen to Com-

The House of Detention should be under the control of the District Attorney, as the report recommends. Mr. PHILBIN learned the dangers of police control of this bureau of the public prosecutor's office when he was in office. There is something objectionable in the suggestion that special police protection, such, for

It would be better that those institutions should procure legal authority for the employees they require for their peculiar needs.

Common sense dictated the recommendation in the report that promotions in the department be made on the basis of the candidate's knowledge of police affairs and efficiency without examination on educational matters. A policeman is not a schoolteacher, or a preacher, or a public lecturer, and many efficient officers would trip up on a literary examination.

The commission splits on the platoon question, Mr. PHILBIN being in favor of the three-platoon plan, advocated by many of the men, and Col. PARTRIDGE adhering to the present system. In regard to it they agree on only one point, and that is the necessity of having more men for patrol duty. The number of patrolmen, they say, should be increased to 8,000 next year, no matter what platoon system is adopted. At present many policemen are detailed as messengers in public offices, and to perform watchmen's duty at semi-public institutions, and as attendants for public officers. Why these men should not be assigned to the duties for which they were employed has never been made clear, but they are of the lucky of the earth.

The suggestions as to pensions, retirements and the like are of an administrative nature-details of little interest to the public. Excepting the suggestion that an independent Commissioner, irremovable by the Mayor, be appointed, there is no agreement in the report of special public consequence.

A Time for Thinking.

Although no bill to regulate the trusts, or, more properly, the corporations, has been introduced in either house of Congress, we can foretell the character of the legislation to be attempted. President ROOSEVELT has described it in his recent message as founded upon the speech delivered by Attorney-General KNOX at Pittsburg on Oct. 14, and the various statesmen preparing to figure in the discussion seem to be following that idea. But for our present purposes the length to which the fiercest attack upon corporations may go is immaterial, because the gentlest one arranged is momentous enough to demand consideration of the gravest kind before being adopted.

The most cautious measure advocated for the regulation of corporations is to demand of them publicity, something on its face so simple and reasonable that its friends are amazed that there should be opposition to it. What harm can it do to business? What honest corporation can oppose it? There can be no sound objection to it, they say, and it will abolish the particular trust " evil " which all experts in that subject agree to be the worst and most productive of the other evils, namely, overcapitalization.

The aforesaid charge against overcapitalization is to our mind of questionable validity, and under all circumstances puerile in the extreme. The world will not come to an end if the managers of a new company issue a million shares of stock with a face value of \$1,000 each, instead of a thousand shares of stock at the face value of \$1 each, which some other capitalists think represent more truly the value of the enterprise. may be regarded as over; and since the

All the bills for publicity are aimed at corporations "engaged in interstate commerce," which the Constitution gives power to Congress to regulate. This proposition would not give cause for special anxiety had we not before us an indication of how unbounded is the field The thought arises naturally that, had over which the proposed Federal power Col. PARTRIDGE been protected in his is designed to be carried. We return to

" If it be true that a State can authorize or permit a monopoly of production within its borders because it has the power over production as such. although it indirectly affects interstate commerce may not the United States regulate interstate commerce, over which it has exclusive control, ever though it indirectly affects production, over which, as such, it has no control? If Congress under its power to regulate interstate commerce may utterly destroy a combination and forfeit its property in interstate transit, as the Sherman act provides. becausedt restrains such commerce, it seems reasonable to say that it can in the exercise of the same power deny to a combination whose life is cannot reach the privilege of engaging in interstate commerce except upon such terms as Congress may prescribe to protect that commerce from restraint."

This scheme of regulation by coercion, the confessed use of power given for one purpose for the accomplishment of another purpose, was substantially made the Administration programme in this portion of the last Presidential message:

" I believe that monopolies, unjust discriminations, which prevent or cripple competition, fraudtient overcapitalization, and other evils in trust organizations and practices which injuriously affect interstate trade can be prevented under the power of the Congress to " regulate commerce with for eign nations and among the several States" through regulations and requirements operating directly pon such commerce, the instrumentalities thereof

and those engaged therein." Never before did the White House send

out so startling a doctrine. The most important part of the business of the United States is in corporate form, and no great corporation in the Union confines its trade to its own State. Our domestic commercial life is essentially interstate. Hence any statute passed under the present auspices affecting " corporations engaged in interstate commerce" will be aimed at every corporation, or at all business, in the country, and a law requiring publicity in the Federal name lays the foundation for Federal control of our industrial activity, its instrumentalities and the men

engaged in it, complete and absolute. That a Federal law exacting publicity from corporations would work substantially a revolution in our political system there can be no doubt. The nation could scarcely continue a Union in the original sense, for life would be taken out of the States. The changes effected in the relations between the Federal Govexample, as is afforded to theatres and ernment and the States and between the steamship companies, should be paid for. Federal Government and the individual

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citizen are beyond the statesman's power to measure. And the scheme in question is urged for a misty reason, for an uncertain end, and under the inspiration of passion roused by two campaigns of

Bryanism! It behooves members of Congress to think carefully whether the National Legislature should embark upon an undertaking of this nature. It is conceivable that the corporations might escape unscathed, but the modification of our Government would stand.

Teaching Temperance in the Public

Schools. By an act passed in 1896 it is required in the State of New York that " the nature of alcoholic drinks and other parcetics shall be taught in connection with the various divisions of physiology and hygiene, as thoroughly as are other branches, in all schools under State control or supported wholly or in part by public money of the State, and also in all schools connected with reformatory institutions." This subject must be taught to all pupils below the second year of the high school and above the third year from the beginning of the lowest primary, with suitable text books, in not less than two lessons week. Such text books must give at least one-fifth of their space to the " nature and effects of alcoholic drinks and other narcotics," except in the highschool grade, where the space shall be not less than twenty pages.

This is commonly known as the "Scientific Temperance Instruction law," and it was enacted under the pressure of representatives of temperance, philanthropic and religious societies, organized as a special committee for the purpose Simultaneously or previously the general policy of giving such instruction in public schools was adopted by many other States. The practical operation of the policy, however, has been much questioned during the last two years, on the grounds that the teaching takes up too much time, overloads an already complicated course of study, and that the school textbooks on the subject are so inaccurate that they are harmful rather than beneficial to pupils. Accordingly, in Connecticut the Scientific Temperance Instruction law has been amended by removing the requirement of the amount of space to be given in text books on the subject, and by excepting from the instruction the highschool grades and the grades in the other schools not above the fifth; and in New York the "State Science Teachers' Association " recommended, a year ago, that the present law be modified similarly. The committee of the temperance, philanthropic and religious organizations which brought about that enactment has set to work to oppose any such modification, and we have received from it a report defending the existing law, generally and specifically, against

the criticisms of the other body. The State Science Teachers' Associa tion attacks the textbooks used in the instruction on the ground that their teaching is in conflict with the facts of physiology as authoritatively taught in the universities and medical schools that, for example, the public school textbooks teach that alcohol is a poison in contradiction of medical demonstration. Its argument is, in substance, that the so-called scientific instruction is not worst in the way of overcapitalization | pupils. The temperance committee deand quotes medical authorities to sustain the textbook teaching. The criticising body refers to the well-known experiments of the chemist, Prof. Ar-WATER, as proving that " alcohol in small quantity can be used like sugar, starch and fat for generating heat and muscular energy." The temperance people quote scientific and medical authorities in opposition to this conclusion.

The Science Association does not undertake to fix the "limit of safety " in the use of alcohol, but it assumes that there is such a limit for the average adult by saying that "youths under 21 should abstain altogether." The temperance people answer that " alcohol, like opium, morphine and other narcotics, when taken with any continuity, even in moderate amounts, has the power to create the uncontrollable and destructive appetite for more;" as, unquestionably, it has with certain temperaments.

The criticising association finds fault with the methods of instruction now required by law and would give teachers of physiology " more freedom to decide as to the character and content of their teaching." In other words, it calls for temperate temperance teaching "which shall not outrage science while assuming to teach it. Moreover, the practical effect of the instruction on the pupils, in influencing their conduct, is described as insignificant by the Science Teachers. but by the temperance committee it is defended as demonstrably valuable; and here is its summary of the responses to inquiries as to the influence on the children of the teaching regarding the use of alcohol and tobacco, and also in hygiene generally, received from 361 different parts of the State, including leading towns and cities, and representing every county in the State, except Hamil-

ton county: " The replies show that the instruction is strength ning the children to resist temptation to use these ubstances [alcohol and tobacco] and is helping them and their parents to abandon such use when already begun. It appeals to their self-respect in causing abhorrence of the idea of ever becoming victims of alcoholic or narcosic habits, and also to their desire to 'get on in the world,' as they learn that alcohol and tobacco by impairing mental and

physical ability limit the chances of success in life." " Parents testify that as a result of this study general hygiene; the children do practise and bring home the truths thus learned. They insist upon proper ventilation of sleeping and living rooms and tell how to get it. They comment on the danger of drains or pools of stagnant water in cellars, door yards or near wells, and urge the necessity of using pure water. The importance of eating slowly and at regular intervals, the proper selection and cooking of food, its adaptation to sea ion, suitable dress, the harmfulness of corsets the danger of draughts, are facts learned at school and put to practical use by the children. They ask for toothbrushes and individual towels and object to public drinking cups. They become little rebels against dirt and disorder in the home and help to secure better conditions: are more careful of the eyesight: assume better positions in standing, walking and studying. Teachers comment

on the improvement in personal appearance resultng from this study. Mothers say, ' Take any other tudy out of the schools, but leave this.' Their

estimony in this respect to almost uniform." Objection may be made to the inculcation of such a spirit of criticism. on the ground that it may interfere with necthis report, mothers are not among the objectors. A father admonished in a childish treble to give up his glass of beer at dinner might feel differently. He might resent criticisms of his habits from out of the mouth of babes and suck-

to his children. However that may be, it is apparent that any attempt to modify the " Scien-Temperance Instruction law of New York in accordance with the suggestions of the Science Teachers' Association will be resisted vigorously by the combined temperance organizations and agencies of the State. Nor can it be denied that, whatever its cause, there has been of recent years a great growth of intelligent understanding of the advantages of absterniousness in the use of all intoxicating beverages, and that meanwhile intemperance is more and more regarded as a deplorable disease requiring treatment as such.

Contemporary Religious Taste.

To-day, the last Sunday before Christmas, the musical features of the services at the non-liturgical churches will be notable because of their approach to those at liturgical churches whose celebration of the Christmas season was once offensive to a large part of Prot-

estantism At Presbyterian, Baptist and Methodist churches of the town elaborate musical programmes are announced. Organs and choirs will be supplemented by violins, violoncellos and harps, and solos by distinguished artists will be introduced. Christmas selections from HANDEL'S " Messiah " will be given in many of these churches, but the music of other composers will be rendered.

Here, for example, is the musical programme of one of the services of a Meth-

odist church:
Prelude- Allegretto
Anthem-" Bonum Est " HOLDEN
Duet-" Rejoice in the Lord " SCHNECKER
Quartet-"Abide With Me " Porrin
Offertory-Nocturne
Postlude Marche de la Reine " Aschen
A Presbyterian church puts forth this

programme for its morning service:

Prelude-" Offertory on Christmas Hymns "
GUILMANT
Quartet-" There Were Shepherds " Tours
Quartet-" The First Christmas "
Soprano Solo-" My Heart Ever Faithful ". BACH
Offertory-" Ring Out, Wild Bells " Gounon
Postlude -" Chorus of Shepherds " LEMMENS
Here is the ambitious programme of

a Baptist church:
Organ Prelude and FugueBACH
Gioria Patri chant.
Anthem-" There Were Shepherds " Brok
"Antioch " HANDEL
Anthem-" O Sing to God "Gounop
Anthem-" Bethlehem "Coombs
Organ-" March in D "SCHUBERT
" Holy, Holy, Holy " DYRES
Gioria Patri, chant.
Anthem Sing, O Heavens "
Lord's Prayer, chant.
Anthem-" Calm on the Listening Ear ". SHELLEY
Hymn-" Christmas "

Anthem-" The Infant King NEIDLINGE Organ-" Christmas March MERKE It will be seen that these churches plicity of worship which once was their boast.

Girls and Farmers

Will the girls marry farmers? So asks the Hon. HENRY VOORHEES of Traverse, Mich., in a very solemn communication to the Inter Ocean. Perhaps he is right to be solemn. It pays, for one thing; and men have an additional reason for solemnity in the fact that they are being | if his locks are not sheared to his taste. extruded pitilessly by triumphant gynocracy. As Mr. VOORHEES says, "in stores and factories girls are crowding out the men, and who is to support a family in the future? " Perhaps it is borrowing trouble to worry about that. If man becomes a clinging and dependent creature, his better half will have to support him. There are men lazy enough to bow to that without shrink-The oak and the ivy will ing. change parts. But where is the farmer to get a wife now when the farmer's daughters are trooping to the cities? "I know plenty of bachelor farmers," says Mr. VOORHEES, " and perhaps on the next farm there is an old maid, disappointed in her city aspirations because her sisters married or are employed in town." Why don't the bachelor farmers do their duty? Then there will be no old maids and no bachelor farmers. Still, if Mr. VOORHEES is right, the

girls don't want to marry farmers: " A strl. even if she wishes to marry, knows tha life as a clerk or workingman's wife bears no comparison to that of a hireling on the farm. I need not enumerate the hardships of the average farm. er's wife. She not only boards the help, but has to tend to the poultry and dairy. And there is the mortgage to pay and farm buildings to keep up &c. In the city nowadays there is no motive to pinch and save. They take the good of life as they

go along and life is short, and perhaps it is just a

We are afraid that Mr. VOORHERS has visited the rural drama too often. Mortgages exist even in cities, although it is not the invariable rule to foreclose them during a real storm, so that the farmer's wife may wander into a cold world with her lace petticoats, diamond rings and other paraphernalia of stage bucolic poverty. Pinching and saving are not unknown even in New York. And what kind of penury does the modern farmer's wife have to put up with? "It now takes \$10,000 to \$25,000 to stock a good farm," Mr. VOORHEES tells us. And the good farmer's wife rides to the stores in trolley cars, belongs to women's clubs, cuts more coupons than children's clothes; and if she is a Kansas woman is apt to have an automobile. More and more rich young men, and rich old men, for that matter, turn to farming and country life. The social position of the farmer is rising, not falling. It is natural that country folk should pine for cities and city folks for the country. Everybody wants something different from what he has. But is "Yankee girl"

so much of a snob as the excellent Mr. VOORHEES paints her?

" Nowadaye the Yankee girl would scorn to be a factory worker or a farm wife. She works now to capture foreign titles and to learn professions. and will stoop to capture manufacturers, statesmen, or any one she chooses to fascinate by her essary filial respect, but, according to brilliancy. Yet for raising a family she is not as successful as her grandparents. Her rece ts doomed. Where are the farmers' wives coming

We hope the Yankee girl isn't doomed. If she is, there are other varieties. And the farmers are able to get wives as other lings. He might object to going to school | men do, by asking for 'em; and if at first they don't succeed, try, try again.

> The natural tribunal for arbitrating the Venezuela troubles is the tribunal of The Hague Convention, but this country will not be afraid to have the settlement of the question imposed upon the President of the United States.

> Great is the man whose higher cerebration is unimpaired by the cares of state and whose intellectual variety is not staled by the wear and tear of his moral responsibilities. What an admirable versatility is that which touches the whole gamut of opportunity from the high treble of crackers and cheese down to the thunderous diapuson of a Marine Trust! What a mind, too, is that which grasps and encompa-ses the possibilities of the Bank Examiner as a solvent in disposing of obligations to a Syndicate! We are illuminated. We radiate with a wondrous radiance, and having light, we must pass it on to other and to faithful

Too many members of our hundred-year class confess or boast that they have used tobacco and applied hot and rebellious liquors for fifty, sixty, seventy-nine years. Mrs. CATHERINE CARRIGAN, who died in Philadelphia last week at the age of 101 years and 2 months, never tasted liquor and attributed her long life and unremitting health to that fact. She was " never ill a whole day." The lucky woman! Still, mark that she is dead, while certain frisky youths of 103 and 104 are still able to be about, smoke their three or six pipefuls a day and take their " morning," 'leven o'clocker and nightcap with the utmost regularity and enjoyment.

In another portion of this morning's SUN is a letter dealing with the problem of transporting people between their home and their office, the most important and most growing in its difficulties of all that confront the city. The business centre of New York is established in the neighborhood of the City Hall, and with the increase of our business population, the task of carrying them from desk to table and vice versa threatens so to overstrain our means of transportation as almost to paralyze them. The traffic from Long Island will be helped by the coming bridges and by the Long Island Railroad tunnel to the Battery, but these are bound to prove insufficient. The traffic from the western side of the city from New Jersey, while provided for to some extent by the Pennsylvania tunnel, which ends at Thirty-second street, will in some respects make things worse, since it will increase the number of passengers to be carried from uptown down. The plan proposed is to build a tunnel from New Jersey which shall land its passengers within easy walking distance of the City Hall, and by extending this tunnel over to Long Island, offer the same facilities to the rapidly increasing population of Brooklyn. Something of this kind will have to be done, and the sooner the better.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 17.—Governor-elect MICKET will not wear a full-dress suit.—St. Paul Dispatch. Well, he doesn't have to. He can wear an incomplete " dress suit," if he prefers that kind.

Another attack on the barber-surgeon A lawyer in Canton, Ohio, has sued a barber and "practical haircutter " for \$200 damages. He asserts that while he was asleep in a barber's chair in the defendant's shop his hair was cut in " a very inartistic manner," so that he is " an object of ridicule among the practising attorneys " of Canton. A man who goes to sleep in a barber's chair doesn't use due diligence. He is guilty of contributory negligence, and has no remedy

The praisers of past time are usually tedious folks, but something is to be said for those of them who complain that clothes don't wear as well as they used to in the bad old times. The Hon. SAMUEL O. BRESS-LER, the Pennsylvanian of credit and renown who drives the Meckville stage, is a competent witness in the matter. was cutting wood on Blue Mountain the other day. He slipped on the ice and down and away he went, like Iser, rolling rapidly, and sliding a quarter of a mile. He " wore out a pair of pantaloons in making the journey." Now, pantaloons didn't use to wear out as quickly as this

More Battleships.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: For building of more battleships for our navy, and don't notice those foolish remarks we have not men to man them. Build the ships and the people of the United States will see that they are manned mighty quick.

A NAVY OFFICER.

A Man's Rights When Called a Liar.

From the Baltimore American.
RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 17.—Edgar White, clerk of the police court, and Patrolman Wyatt were each fined \$5 in the police court to-day for fighting in the corridor of that court yesterday, and they were also placed under peace bonds for twelve

Justice Crutchfield in this case made one of his unique rulings, to the effect that "a man who had been called 'a liar' had a right to strike back, provided he could prove that he was not a liar, but when a man was called by such an epithet, and t natance had a right to strike back. The circumstances as to which, if either, in this case was a liar was not developed, and no attempt was made to show which statement was in error.

A Warm Member. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Ought not shigh Best, Secretary of the American Locomo tive Company, to be given a place of prominence among the immortals? It is suggested that at this

time of scarcity of coal he might add to the com-

fort of the others who are shivering in their cold niches, as he would doubtless prove "a warm mem-MANCHESTER, N. H., Dec. 18.

Spoiling for a Fight. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: We have before us the golden opportunity of this generation.

Make a strong friendly compact with Russia and
France and wipe the English and German thrones
out of egistence.

W. S. B.

Dibanker.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: Why the dihanker doesn't a SUN-Reading Piker from Pike ounty, Pa., explain dihanker? Dihanker is a Pennsylvania-Dutch synonym for duyvil or devil. Pennsylvania-Dutch ernonym for duyvil or devil.

It is used by older sisters to younger brothers
whom they cannot catch for spinking purposes:
"O. Du glayner dihanker. Du gricksis gentss won
Ich dich grick?" Translated, "O. you little devilyou'll catch it when I catch you." Ask Judge
Governor-elect Pennypacker of Schwinksville,
George F. Baer or Charles M. Schwab if this isn't
the proper explanation. I come from Kutztowa
in the "State of Berks," and ought to know.
PLAIN DUTCH.

DEAN HART AND CHRISTIAN SCIENCE.

The Denver Clergyman Defends His Re cent Criticisms of Mrs. Eddy.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The letter of Mr. McCrackan, in your issue o Dec. 8, is the most consequent utterance of any defence of this novel cult I have ever seen; and inasmuch as so many people seem unable to extricate themselves from the meshes of its specious sophistry, and so many more are unable to gain a clear conception of its position, I venture to trespass upon your space, if possible, to set forth a clear statement of Mrs. Eddy's theory, a theory which needs nothing but its statement

its refutation.

She asserts that there are two men in consideration: the one, is "the ideal man," who is "made in God's image," and is "perfect even as the Father is perfect; the soul and mind of (this) man is God," and "the rea man is governed by this soul, instead of

(This) "man is incapable of sin, sickness and death; inasmuch as he derives his esseno from God; • • • the real man cannot depart from holiness." But as man, as we observe him, is the antipodes of this "ideal man," the existences of her theory require that she should account for the existence of man as we know him, so, she bravely declares that what we know as man is "a material falsity," that "mortal man," as she terms him, is a consummate deception. "Mortals are man's counterfeits. They are children of the wicked one, or the one evil." the unseen spirit which governs "mortal man, is "mortal mind," "the autocrat of the body: "governs every organ of the mortal body; deed the two are so intimately connecte that "mortal mind and body are one: mind" builds its own body, which "from first to last is only a sensuous belief," and upon which it is constantly producing the results of false beliefs; "this it accomplishes through the five physical senses," which "are simply beliefs of mortal mind."

The strange hiatus in this remarkable theory is, Mrs. Eddy nowhere suggests how the "ideal man" came to be incarcerated in "mortal man;" how the "Divine Being" was completely made prisoner by its devilist double. Perhaps if Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde had made their appearance earlier Mrs. Eddy might have found the missing link.

It is now the mission of her cult to deliver the "ideal man" from the terrible embrace of the "mortal man." She says, "the great spiritual fact must be brought out that man is, not shall be, perfect and immortal. We must hold fast forever the consciousnes of existence, and sooner or later, aided by 'Christian Science,' we must master sin, sickness and death." The process by which this most desirable end is to be accomplished

Christian Science, we must master sin, sickness and death." The process by which this most desirable end is to be accomplished is to be aware of our deception and constantly deny that sin, sickness or death has any real existence, but are only the deceptions of "mortal mind."

This is the sum and substance of the "Christian Science" belief.

The descriptive adjective "Christian" intimates that in her opinion Jesus Christ was chief exponent of the system. That He illustrated the effect of it in his life, and that He instructed his followers to continue what He had begun.

Mr. McCrackan relies upon two scriptures for the present authority of healing the sick. One the promise that believers in the Lord should do even greater works than He had shown, which was accomplished at the day of Pentecost, when ten times more were converted in one day than He had gathered in his life time, and is renewed every time a soul is revitalized by the Holy Ghost, to send whom it was for some deep reason requisite that He should "go to the Father" and the other the assertion of the Lord, in the last verses of St. Mark's Gospel, that the same sort of corroborative signs should "accompany" the first preachers of the Gospel as He had worked as credentials for his authority, this was necessary to gain for "ignorant and unlearned men" a hearing and that they might have credentials to show for the authority of their ambassadorship. That this was the understanding of every generation of Christians from the Anosties themselves downward is evidenced by the fact that they all have died; that St. Paul carried about with him, to his last days, a serious disease; that he left Trophmius sick behind him at Miletes, because, I suppose, there was no occasion for curing him; and that he evidently only healed people not as the natural outcome of the principles he preached for their sole benefit, but as a sirn, to enforce his teachings; it was for this end that he did the reverse of "all good" by striking Elymas with blindness. That this is the true an

St. Chrysostom, frequently comment on the fact, and account for it by saying that Christianity no longer needed any other witness that it is "the power of God," than the effect it had had upon the whole world. The present undoubted cases of cure, cited by "Christian Scientists," are due to the same cause, as the cures made constantly by faith curers, mind curers, Mr. Dowie and others; they are the effect of the properly directed will power. And all these cures are very different from direct answers to prayer, of which there are always some instances, for "God has not left Himself without witness that He is, and is the rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." But this is a very different thing from the belief of the "Christian Scientists." They hold their cures are the result of a general principle and are not effected by particular, earnest prayer. I have reserved, sir, the most serious evil of this cult to the last.

Mr. McCrackan quotes Mrs. Eddy assaving: The emphatic purpose of Christian Science is the healing of sin."

Now, sin is offence against God. As the world does not pessess a scintillation of knowledge as to the moral character of God, except through the one book of Revelation—the Bible—and as the "Christian Scientists," whatever else other people may do, accept the Bible—and as the "Christian Scientists," whatever else other people may do, accept the Bible—and as the "Christian Scientists," whatever else other people may do, accept the Bible—and as the "Christian Scientists," whatever else other people may do, accept the Bible—and as the "Christian Scientists," whatever else other people may do, accept the Bible—and as the "Christian Scientists," whatever else other people may do, accept leads of the dath we away to offense in our Maker stated of the dath we away to our Maker

is no sin," is not to wipe away its offensiveness.

No philosophy has ever suggested a method to get rid of the debt we owe to our Maker for forgiveness for infringing His just laws and for not using His gifts for the purpose for which He bestowed them. Saying it is all a misrake, a misbelief, that we owe Him anything will not cancel the debt. There is only one means by which that can be done and we go free—it is by having a vital participation in that sacrifice by which was "taken away the sin of the world."

I do not profess to understand its mysterles any more than I understand anything which concerns life: but I know something of the result of accenting its gift.

The "Christian Scientists" had better compare the travesty of this wonderful thing, as set forth by Mrs. Eddy, and the mystery of it, as set forth by St. Paul, and if they can hold simultaneously to their two authorities, then the words of St. Paul have found fulfillment in them.

"If we say that we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us."

The Deanery, Denver.

Guests Drank 1805 Madeira. From the Baltimore Herald.

Mr. John K. Cowen, who recently returned from Europe, was the guest of honor at a "welcome" dinner given last night by Mr. Douglas H. Thomas at his home, 1010 St. Paul street. The other guests were leading legal lights—the Judges of the Court of Ap peals and city courts. Covers were laid for

twenty.

The wines were the feature of the menu, and among those served was a bottle of Madeira of the vintage of 1805. It was the last of a case which descended to Mr. Thomas from his great uncle, the late Chief Justice from his great uncle, the late Chief Justic Marshall.

Glees at a Wedding. From the Baltimore Sun

Amid splendor seldom equalled in Baltimore Mrs. Lucie Vera Mitchell and Mr. Thomas A. Mac terday. As soon as the ceremony was concluded the Mendelsso in Glee Club Quartet sang "Drink to Me Only With Thine Eyes, "and later four vocal-lsts sang "Maryland, My Maryland,"

Young for Her Years. Elia-I'm a daughter of Eve. Stella-You hold your age very well.

Harper's Magazine for January is full of Inter esting matter from the first to the last cover page. Among the contributors to a very interesting number are Wu Ting fang, Howard Pyle, Julian Ralph Mrs. Humphry Ward. Benjamin Kidd, Vernot Lee, John R. Spears, the Princess Troubetskoy Prof. Joseph Thomson, Harriet Prescott Spoffo Josephine Dodge Daskam, Ernest Jarrold and Pro George Lyman Kittredge; and there are many only less well-known writers and illustrators who with pen and pencil have combined to produce a charming and timely number of the famous maga-

THE VENEZUELA MATTER.

The Critical Questions Discussed by at

Authority in International Law. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The really interesting question regarding the Venezuela affair is this: Why did Londor make an alliance with Berlin against Caracas! There has not yet been disclosed any reason why England could not, separate and apart, pursue its reclamation against Venezuela The sensitiveness of the United States in the matter of the Monroe Doctrine is well known everywhere, and that the suspicion of our people is now more alert against Berlin than

Diplomatic notes and conversations have seems, been going on during many months between Washington, London and Berlin respecting the purposes of the last two. When the demands and reprisals came, why did not the President quickly take all of Congress and the country into his confidence and make public the upshot of the diplomatic rotes and the conversations, and put the country on the right track?

A third question relates to the perempeors manner in which Germany and England pur sued their pretensions in Venezuelan waters The incident regarding the insult to the British flag stands by itself, but the demands of the British naval officer and the little time he gave for explanation before opening fire or the Venezuela fort were certainly excep-London for instructions. Everything thus ar indicates that the general orders issued at Berlin and London to their naval commanders were of a character quite unusual in such simple cases. Had our Government at Washington been made acquainted there

In the statements made by the newspapers that I have seen, the affair has not presented any novel questions of international law That law is the customs and usages of nations on which the nations have manifested an

If Germans and Britons only held even claims on Venezuela for money borrowed and not paid when due, it was permissible for the respective Governments of the credi-tors to decide whether or not they should interfere, and whether only by diplomatic representations or by force. If Prof. Goldwin mith, who has put a question to you on the subject, will look into any complete English reatise on public law, he will see what British usage is and that as late as Jan. 7, 1880, Lord salisbury affirmed the right to use force to collect debts. The difference between mere debts and wrongs for which everybody concedes a State is responsible is in principle not clear, no matter what usage and custom are. The whole subject was, as we all know, threshed out forty-one years ago when Eng-land, France and Spain, under the convention of Oct. 31, 1861, made war on Mexico to obtain more efficacious protection for the persons and property of their subjects." It was avowedly a debt-collecting war. Not only that, it was, in addition, a war of occupation to obtain a future government in Mexico that would not only be responsible and stable, but also pay debts. The United States as-

According to international usage and custom, it was permissible for Germany and England to make peaceful reprisals against payment of her claims, but not to seize vessel and immediately sink them. Venezuelicould treat the reprisals as war, even if the allies did not so intend them to be treated President Jackson advised, in 1831, reprisalagainst France for debts. We all know, or should know, that by the law of nation Europe can use "retorsion" against us by like laws and tariffs if we repel their proas to sink the seized vessels if they sought

Pacific blockade, whatever it implies, was employed by France and England in America as recently as 1848. It was usage then, but is not now. Neutrals do not of late years, concede it to belligerents. All blockades now appertain to war. Germany and England, if they would coerce Venezuela short of war, must not interfere with the usual commerce of others. Perhaps they cannot even stop lawfully, by a pacific blockade, their own vessels from going to Venezuelan ports. Usage has varied regarding any sort of commercial as differentiated from military blockades. Before the War of Secession the United States endeavored to modify international usage as to them, but after we made a mere commercial blockhopeless to change the usage. Pacific block-

ades no one now defines.

That Germany and England are to be re strained by the United States from using di-plomacy, and violence if need be, to compel Venezuela to pay her debts, and make compensation and atonement for wanton injuries against them, is absurd. It was only a little more than half a dozen years ago that the United States brought up Venezuela with round turn for injuries to an American-owned steam transportation company, inflicted in her waters during one of her chronic insurrections, or in the process of conducting a national election with bullets instead of ballots. An award was made against her which

is yet unpaid. critical questions, however, now are: Why did England go into such an alliance with Germany, why was each so violent, and how will she cover her retreat if it shall be, as it must be, that she never intended to offend against what she must have known are the keen susceptibilities of the United States?

PLACUIT NE GENTIBUS?

An Eagle Drowned by Its Prey. From the Buffalo Courier.

JAMESTOWN, Dec. 18.—A colony of American eagles has made its home along the shores of Chautauqua Lake for many years. A story is told of one of these birds which is verified by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dykeman, who reside on Bayfield farm, who witnessed the incident, that is truly remarkable.

The eagle was gracefully soaring over the lake when it suddenly darted with lightning age when it suddenly darted with lightning rapidity toward the water, catching in its talons a muskallonge two feet or more in length and weighing probably ten pounds. There was a clash and a splashing of fins and feathers, but slowly the bird rose in the air feathers, but slowly the bird rose in the air with its captive dangling and wriggling below. When at a height of about 1,000 feet the bird, still clinging to the fish, began to sink slowly toward the lake again, gaining speed as it descended, and finally fell with a splash in the water. Later the bird and fish were found together dead.

The fish had evidently been too heavy for the eagle to carry, but its claws were so firmly imbedded in the flesh that it could not release its hold, and as its strength gave way it sank into the water whence it had sought its prey and was drowned.

Shinned Up a Pole After Votes. From the Louisville Courier-Journal

has broken the record for electioneering for public office. Muir is a candidate for City Attorney, and there are several other young men with their eyes on the same place, making it a close race.

was passing down Chestnut street He was passing down Chestnut street and observed a number of men patching up some wires on a telephone pole. Thinking while they were waiting it would be a good time to ask them to vote for him, he engaged them in conversation. Finally, when he told them he was a candidate, they said they did not have time to talk politic, especially when they were so far apart. He said he would come to them, and at once began climbing the pole. Having been a fireman of considerable experience, he found little difficulty in making the top of the pole where the men were perched along on the wires at work. They applauded his effort and promised to vote for him.

The Bitnd Chaplain's Reason.

From the Washington Post. "Why are you willing to leave the flower garden of oratory in the House of Representatives for the graveyard of the Senate?" was asked of the Rev. Henry N. Couden, the blind chaplain of the House, who is an aspirant for a similar position in the Senate.

Because one stays longer in a graveyard, answered the humble man of God.

How fade the glories of the kings of earth. Where one true man and Love and Wh